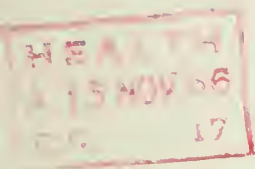


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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1955.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

STAFF.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Dr. J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Dr. J. Rigby, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(retired 4th October, 1955).

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

R.H. Grayson, Cert., R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

DEPUTY SANITARY INSPECTOR.

R. Hilton, Cert., R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

F.C. Ryding, Cert., R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.  
(resigned November 12th. 1955).

In addition the Department has a full-time junior clerk (female).

A Rodent Operator is also employed.

Outside staff is engaged on Scavenging.

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHORLEY.

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Gillibrand Street,  
CHORLEY.  
Lancashire.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mrs. Carrington and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my Report for the year 1955.

AREA.

There was no change in the District during the year, the area is 41,114 acres.

The District encircles the Municipal Borough of Chorley, and is bounded on the North by Walton-le-Dale U.D., Leyland U.D., and Preston R.D., on the South by Wigan R.D., Standish U.D., Adlington U.D., and Horwich U.D., on the West by West Lancashire R.D., and on the East by Blackburn R.D., Withnell U.D., and Turton U.D.

The District is varied in character, and whilst there is considerable industry, some parts of the District are really rural.

Agriculture predominates in the area which has its share of rich agricultural land. In addition there is of course cotton spinning and weaving, mining, the Royal Ordnance factory in the District is an industry on its own, brickmaking is carried on in several parishes, and the old craft of basket making is still carried on in Mewdesley. There are in addition vast industries in some of the adjoining areas which provide work for residents of the District.

POPULATION.

The estimated population (Registrar General's Figure) for Mid 1955 is 27,200.

The following figures give the population since 1945 and show the variation:-

1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
24,420	25,430	26,150	26,940	27,360	27,510	27,150	27,260	27,090	27,240	27,200

The Census figure for 1931 was 23,633.

The Census figure for 1951 was 27,198.

INHABITED HOUSES.

The Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1955 was 8,467.

RATEABLE VALUE.

The Rateable value of the District is - £191,956.

The sum represented by a penny rate is - £757.

# S T A T I S T I C S.

## BIRTH RATE.

### Live Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate	343	159	184
Illegitimate	11	6	5
	<u>354</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>189</u>

Birth Rate (crude) per 1,000 estimated civilian population	13.0
Birth Rate (adjusted) per 1,000 estimated civilian population	13.9
Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales	15.0

### Still Births.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Legitimate	9	7	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>

The Rate per 1,000 civilian population is	0.33
The Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales	0.35

## DEATH RATE.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
	323	167	156

The Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population is	11.9
The Adjusted rate per 1,000 estimated population is	12.7
The Death Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales is	11.7

## Infantile Deaths.

The Death Rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births is:-	42.0
The Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales is	24.9
There were actually 15 infantile deaths.	

## Maternal Deaths.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

The following table gives the figures for the past thirteen years.

YEAR	LIVE BIRTH RATE		STILL BIRTH RATE	DEATH RATE		INFANTILE DEATH RATE	MATERNAL DEATHS.
	Chorley R.D.	England and Wales.	Chorley R.D. (per 1,000 live and still Births.)	Chorley R.D.	England and Wales.	Chorley R.D. (per 1,000 live births).	Chorley R.D.
1942	15.8	15.8	50.0	11.0	11.6	43	2
1943	18.3	16.5	38.0	12.0	12.1	52	2
1944	19.3	17.6	33.5	11.6	11.6	33	2
1945	15.2	16.1	42.0	11.9	11.4	50	-
1946	18.2	19.1	27.0	10.5	11.5	36	1
1947	20.4	20.5	27.0	12.3	12.0	50	-
1948	18.1	17.9	25.0	10.4	10.8	32	-
1949	15.9	16.7	18.0	12.5	11.7	32	-
1950	15.0	15.8	23.0	13.0	11.6	38	-
1951	14.0	15.5	28.0	14.0	12.5	32	-
1952	14.2	15.3	23.0	12.2	11.3	26	2
1953	14.6	15.5	27.0	11.3	11.4	35	-
1954	13.5	15.2	29.0	12.2	11.3	22	-
1955	13.0	15.0	25.0	11.9	11.7	42	-

# DEATHS FROM.

YEAR	CANCER (all ages)	MEASLES (all ages)	WHOOPI NG COUGH (all ages)	DIARRHOEA. (under 2 years of age).
1942	43	-	2	3
1943	32	-	-	1
1944	51	-	-	1
1945	42	-	1	-
1946	38	-	-	-
1947	42	-	2	3
1948	45	-	-	2
1949	27	-	1	1
1950	50	-	1	-
1951	45	-	-	4
1952	43	-	-	1
1953	55	-	-	2
1954	39	-	-	-
1955	37	-	-	-



ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSE	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Tuberculosis (all forms).	2	3	5
Syphilitic disease.	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	-	-
Cancer (all forms).	19	18	37
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	1	-	1
Diabetes.	1	1	2
Vascular Lesions of nervous system.	22	30	52
Heart Diseases.	73	55	128
Other Circulatory Diseases.	4	12	16
Influenza.	1	1	2
Pneumonia	10	1	11
Bronchitis.	4	4	8
Other Respiratory Diseases.	2	1	3
Ulcer of Stomach.	2	-	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	3	3	6
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	2	1	3
Hypertrophia of prostate.	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations.	2	2	4
Other defined and illdefined diseases.	13	15	28
Motor Vehicle accidents.	-	1	1
All other accidents.	5	5	10
Suicide.	1	3	4
TOTAL.	167	156	323

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Isolation Hospital at Heath Charnock was closed during the year and infectious cases from the area are now sent to Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston.

The total number of cases notified during the year was 211. This figure is only half of the notifications in 1954. Reference to pages 6 and 7 show the difference is caused by a reduction of over eighty measles, over forty Whooping Cough and the fact that this year there was only one case of food poisoning notified compared with the outbreak of the year before. This single case of food poisoning was directly connected with an outbreak in an adjoining District in which the man was employed.

There were no cases of diphtheria.

### Disinfection of Premises.

Terminal disinfection is still carried out, and during the year 41 premises were disinfected.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (after correction)  
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1955.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.											Total Deaths.
	Total cases at all ages.	AGES PERIODS - YEARS.										
		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65 & over	Age Unk- nown	
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	33	-	1	2	19	8	2	-	-	-	1	-
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric or typhoid fever excluding paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fever.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles (excluding rubella)	141	4	25	40	69	-	1	1	-	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	8	-	1	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute pneumonia (prim. and influenzal)	14	1	-	1	1	-	-	3	6	2	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis Paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis infective.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria (Contracted in England and Wales)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria (Abroad)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis Respiratory	10	-	-	-	1	-	2	5	2	-	-	1
Meninges and C.N.S.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	211	6	27	42	95	8	6	9	8	2	2	1



TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	YEAR.									
	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Scarlet Fever	33	31	91	88	71	39	104	172	51	61
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including membranous group).	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	6	6
Enteric or typhoid fever (excluding paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding rubella)	141	223	265	203	285	64	402	178	252	40
Whooping Cough	8	51	80	47	83	96	63	49	125	16
Acute pneumonia (primary and influenzal)	14	17	22	10	35	20	54	13	21	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	1	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	—	10	—
Acute polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	13	6	2	—	—	1	—	—	40
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas	—	3	2	3	—	6	4	1	2	2
Malaria (Contracted in England and Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
( Abroad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	62	25	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Any other diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.	199	401	493	354	475	233	630	417	467	177

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED  
DURING THE YEAR 1955, FROM THE VARIOUS TOWNSHIPS.

TOWNSHIP	FOOD POISONING	ACUTE I NEUMONIA	DYSENTERY	ERYSIPELAS	MEASLES	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPI NG COUGH	TU BERCULOSIS		TOTAL.
								PULMONARY	NON PUL.	
Anderton	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Anglezarke	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bretherton	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Brindle	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
Charnock Richard	-	1	-	-	5	2	-	-	-	8
Clayton-le-Woods	-	4	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	10
Coppull	-	1	-	-	57	20	5	2	1	86
Croston	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Guerden	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	6
Eccleston	-	-	-	-	17	1	3	-	-	21
Duxton	-	2	-	-	7	1	-	2	1	13
Haspey	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Heath Charnock	1	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	6
Heskin	-	-	-	-	9	4	-	-	-	13
Highton	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	4
Mowdesley	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Rivington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulms Walton	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Wharfedale	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Whittle-le-Woods	-	3	1	-	17	3	-	2	-	26
TOTAL	1	14	2	-	141	33	8	10	2	211

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1955.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<u>Years.</u>								
0-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
35-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 and upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	5	5	1	1	-	1	1	1
	10		2		1		2	



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the water supplied by the Rural District Council through its mains is obtained from Manchester Corporation, the aqueduct from Thirlmere to Manchester passes through the District.

This water is supplied to nineteen of the twenty parishes which form the Rural District, Rivington, the other parish, is supplied by Liverpool Corporation which has extensive water works situated in that parish.

Whilst no one is actually without water, the lack of pressure produces effects which vary from inconvenience to hardship at certain times in some parts of the District. This matter is under observation with a view to remedying it, which of course it needs as early as possible.

Three existing properties in Houghton were connected to the Council's main during the year.

### SEWERAGE.

#### Clayton-le-Woods, Heapey, Wheelton and Whittle-le-Woods Scheme.

This scheme was virtually completed during 1955. The work took considerably longer than was expected but finally the problem of bad ground, made more difficult by severe weather for long periods, was overcome, the work completed, and the District improved as a result.

The old disposal works at Wheelton is no longer in use and is to be dismantled, the old works has been dismantled at Whittle-le-Woods, and the new works is now in operation treating sewage from Wheelton and Heapey as well as Clayton-le-Woods and Whittle-le-Woods.

as well as taking pollution from ditches and streams in parts of Whittle-le-Woods and Wheelton, it has also allowed closet conversions to be commenced in areas where there was no sewer previously. The figures for Wheelton, Whittle-le-Woods and Heapey in the closet conversion list show this.

#### Coppull, Charnock Richard, Hoskin, Eccleston and Croston Scheme.

A considerable amount of work was carried out on this scheme during the year, in fact it is fair to say the end of the work was in sight at the end of the year. Unfortunately the sewage disposal works was not completed and because of this it was not possible to connect up houses in areas not previously sewered. The next year should see the whole scheme completed including house connections, this will allow closet conversions to be commenced in Hoskin, Charnock Richard and part of Croston where there has been no main drainage before.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

For many years it has been reported that there is still a large number of toilet closets and privy middens in the area, this is still true and will continue to be for some time.

It is realised of course that there will be some conveniences of this type for an indefinite period since no rural district can be sewered throughout. However, since the major sewerage schemes have been completed there are several areas in the District, comparatively small in size and affecting only small numbers of properties, the sewerage of which should be considered with a view to seeing it possible to reduce the number of closets other than water closets in the District to the lowest possible number.



The target of 100 conversions was again reached, and the table below shows the parishes in which the work was done, the second table relating to conversions shows the total conversions carried out since 1940.

CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT IN 1955.

Parish	Pails to W.C's	Privies to W.C's	Privies to Pails	Total.
Anderton	2	..	..	2
Bretherton	1	..	..	1
Brindle	6	..	..	6
Clayton-le-Woods	1	..	..	1
Coppull	15	21	..	36
Croston	3	14	..	17
Guardon	1	..	..	1
Hasleston	3	4	..	7
Fuxton	2	..	..	2
Heath Charnock	3	..	..	3
Haspoy	2	..	..	2
Highton	1	..	..	1
Mawdesley	3	..	..	3
Wheelton	20	1	..	21
Whittle-le-Woods	14	..	..	14
Totals.	77	40	..	117

CONVERSIONS CARRIED OUT SINCE 1940

Year(s)	Pails to W.C's	Privies to W.C's	Privies to Pails	Total.
1940-1945	21	50	44	115
1946	25	15	4	44
1947	12	38	21	71
1948	62	51	23	136
1949	120	51	6	177
1950	101	29	7	137
1951	66	29	..	95
1952	99	20	..	119
1953	103	3	..	106
1954	43	29	..	72
1955	77	40	..	117
TOTALS	729	355	105	1,189

## SCAVENGING.

The District is scavenged by direct labour.

For the collection of dry refuse and the emptying of privy middens five Karrier Bantam refuse collectors are in regular use, and another is kept as a spare vehicle.

Pail closets are emptied by means of a cesspool emptier adapted for the purpose, this allows nightsoil to be transported safely and hygienically. The use of this machine has made it possible to consider using a different type of vehicle for dry refuse collection and the Council ordered an S & D fore and aft tipper during the year.

Dry refuse is disposed of by tipping, the scattered nature of the District necessitates the use of numerous tips which are not easy to find or to control.

The submerged clay pit in which tipping takes place was troublesome at the end of the summer but not for a very long period.

Night-soil is disposed of by lagooning and by disposal into sewers, it is hoped that it will be possible to dispose of all of it in the sewers once the Western sewerage scheme is completed.

Privy midden contents are disposed of on land but the quantity of this is not great and it is being reduced each year.

## DUSTBINS.

The provision of the simple dustbin is still a difficulty, Notices under Section 75 of the Public Health Act are served. Owner-Occupiers of course provide their own bins, in many cases the owner and occupier presumably settle the matter between themselves, the cases brought to the notice of the Department must be dealt with under the Act.

During the year 17 Notices under Section 75 were served.

In 12 cases the Notices were complied with.

In 5 cases the Local Authority supplied the bins in default.

## SALVAGE.

36 tons of waste paper was collected and disposed of in the last half of 1955. The collection was primarily to get the paper off the tips.

## VEH.

### Slaughterhouses.

The bacon factory opened in 1951 operated throughout the year, the output is shown in the table.

The six slaughterhouses which came into use in 1954 were again licensed and continued in use throughout the year, the through-put of these is also shown in the table.

The slaughterhouses are situated in the following parishes.

Coppull	2
Croston	2
Eccleston	1
Hoskin	1
Heath Charnock	1 (Bacon Factory).

The premises are visited frequently and every effort is made to see the carcasses of all animals slaughtered.

FOOD contd.

Carcases Inspected and condemned	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	616	211	6	4225	8567	-
Number inspected	616	211	6	4225	8567	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	3	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	33	21	-	-	522	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	5.35	9.95	50	-	6.09	-
<u>Tuberculosis only-</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	-	-	7	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	48	74	-	-	694	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.9	35.5	-	-	8.18	-
<u>Cysticercosis-</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Numerous other inspections of foods took place, particularly at a wholesale depot, and these resulted in the following being condemned:-

Tinned Ham	321 lbs.
Tinned Ox Tongue	53 "
" Stewed Steak	117 "
" Jellied Veal	38 "
" Corned and Pressed Beef	174 "
" Meat Loaf	49 "
" Steak and Kidney	11 "
" Vegetables (Assorted)	379 "
" Milk (Pints)	797 pints.
" Fish	69 lbs.
" Cream	47 ounces.
" Fruit	939 lbs.
Preserves	83 "
Tinned Fruit Juices	62 Fluid ounces.
Cheese Spreads	17 lbs.
Syrup, Treacle and Honey	6 "
Tinned Soup	23 "
Pickles & Sauces	34 "
Breakfast Cereals	75 packets.
Luncheon Meat	97 lbs.



## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

### Regulation 20.

No action was taken during the year.

### MILK Registered Distributors.

At the end of the year there were 32 Registered Distributors of milk in the District.

### Special Designated Milk.

The following licences were issued during the year:-

Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Pasteurised	14
Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Sterilised	24
Dealer's licence to use Special Designation Tuberculin Tested	11

### ICE CREAM

There was one new registration for the manufacture of ice cream during the year. Manufacturers with one exception are in a small way only making what they themselves retail. In some cases the business is not continuous even in summer.

All premises registered for manufacture are used for that purpose, some only retail ice cream purchased from larger manufacturers.

The number of premises on the register at the end of the year was:-

Registered for the Manufacture, Storage and Sale	11
Registered for Storage and Sale only	61
Total	<u>72</u>

The following figures show the number registered since 1948:-

<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
20	35	47	58	61	68	69	72

### SCHOOLS

School Medical Services are administered by the County Council and reports are issued.

There are 32 schools in the District including Rivington and Blackrod Grammar-School.

### WATER SUPPLY

All schools are supplied with water from the Council's main.

### SEWERAGE COLLECTION.

30 of the 32 schools have water closets.  
2 remaining 12 schools have pail closets.

There are several schools to be served by the new sewers in course of construction, and as soon as they are completed every effort will be made to get them connected.



## CAMPING.

Little trouble was experienced during the year although there were numerous vans on one unlicensed site. There were also occasions when a few genuine wanderers stayed in the District.

There were no difficulties with genuine campers, in fact the District is little used by such, the problem with vans is the desire to use them as permanent habitations, there are a number of such in the Area.

There are also a few vans which have been in use for many years, one of these was removed during the year.

There are no sites licensed under the Public Health Act. A few licences for individuals were however issued for short periods.

There are also a number of vans in the area which are exempt, eg., vans in store.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are approximately 20 factory chimneys in the area. No legal action was taken but the owners of one chimney were interviewed with regard to smoke emission. The quality of fuel does not help in this respect.

## HOUSING.

House building was carried on throughout the year, the number erected being 33.

## SLUM CLEARANCE.

Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Under the above legislation the Ministry required a return showing the number of houses unfit for human habitation and suitable for dealing with under the Housing Act, 1936.

Some information was already available, and a further survey was carried out. From this information a list of properties suitable for dealing with under the Housing Act was prepared. The properties were later visited by a sub-committee and finally the figures were arrived at and submitted to the Ministry.

The total number of houses included in the Ministry Return was 420 approx.

Later it was decided that 250 of these should be dealt with within the next five years.

## Houses already dealt with.

Action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, (Individual houses) was taken in the case of 10 houses. In three cases Demolition Orders were made, in five cases Undertakings were accepted, and the remaining two houses became subject of Closing Orders. This makes the total number of Houses dealt with since the war 49, in two cases the houses were subject to undertakings which were determined on the houses being made fit to the satisfaction of the Council.

## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

A considerable number of applications for Improvement Grants were made and dealt with during the year, the figures are:-

		No. of Houses affected.
Applications submitted by Private Individuals	50	50
Number finally approved	44	44
Work completed	20	20

In the previous year 19 applications were submitted and 11 approved.

The figures for the two years:- 69 applications and 55 approvals are quite substantial.

#### SHOPS.

Inspection of Shops is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors on behalf of the County Council.

A large number of the shops in the area are small and operated by the family.

Number inspected in 1955 was 38.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

A lot of work was again carried out under the Public Health Act.

Number of visits, inspections and reinspections made	was 3,765
Nuisances or defects discovered	369
Nuisances abated and defects remedied	342
Number of Informal Notices served	312
Statutory Notices served	73

#### PETROLEUM REGULATIONS.

73 licences were issued during the year.

#### RODENT CONTROL.

A summary of the work performed under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, during the year is given on page 17.

A Rodent Operator was employed throughout the year but his work is not confined entirely to Rodent Control.

Complaints are not numerous.

Co-operation with the Officers of the Agricultural Executive Committee maintained.

All Council owned properties, sewers, Sewage disposal works, refuse tips inspected regularly and treated as often as necessary.

RODENT CONTROL Contd.

The following table summarises the work done during the year:-

TYPE OF PROPERTY.					
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	All other (including Business Premises)	Total of Cols.(1) (2) & (3)	
Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	22	7,371	440	7,833	675
Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	--	61	18	79	1
(b) Survey under the Act	22	1,272	62	1,356	66
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	--	2,000	300	2,300	350
Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 11) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major	2	--	--	2	--
Minor	8	36	16	60	--
(b) Mice Major	--	--	--	--	--
Minor	--	5	--	5	--
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority.	10	41	13	64	--
Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act					
(a) Treatment	--	--	--	--	--
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing)	--	--	--	--	--
Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act.	--	--	--	--	--
Legal Proceedings	--	--	--	--	--
No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	--	--	--	--	--



# Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

The following tables summaries the work done in connection with factories in the year.

## PART 1 OF THE ACT.

### 1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which sections 2, 3, 4, & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	14	14	-	-
(11) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	75	38	-	-
(12) Factories in which Section 110 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outwork premises)	12	6	-	-
TOTAL	101	58	-	-

### 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Excess of brightness (S.1.)	3	3	-	-	-
Excessive fumes (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Excessive temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Accidents & Consequences (S.7.)					
(a) Inefficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Ineffective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Inadequate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to health)	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	5	5	-	-	-

Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)

(Including outwork) Making etc. 19



NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47.

No cases were actually dealt with under this section during the year, the co-operation of the Divisional Health Committee Staff relieved us of the responsibility in one case where action was contemplated.

Section 50.

One case was dealt with in June of 1955, the person being a resident of a hostel with no traceable relatives.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. Walker,

Medical Officer of Health.

